



State of Tennessee

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 63

By Herron, Finney

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Duke Harris Brasfield of Covington.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Duke Harris Brasfield; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and highly respected attorney in Covington for thirty-three years, Duke Brasfield will be remembered by those fortunate to know him for his compassionate and generous spirit, his sense of humor, his calm and trustworthy demeanor, and as a man of great integrity who embodied the best of his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield earned his Doctorate of Jurisprudence in 1975 from Memphis State University's Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, where he realized the earnest sense of justice and fairness for which he will be so fondly remembered; and

WHEREAS, following the patriotic tradition for which the "Volunteer State" is renowned, Duke Brasfield bravely served his country with honor in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War with overseas duty in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield served with acumen and alacrity as the attorney for the Covington Industrial Development Board and the County Attorney for Tipton County since 1985, in which positions he earned the respect of his colleagues and the citizens he served for the exemplary quality of his work, his brilliant insights, and his good judgment; and

WHEREAS, an active and important member of his profession, Duke Brasfield also rendered sterling service as the President of the Tennessee County Attorneys Association's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield was a dedicated civic leader who distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his involvement with numerous organizations and boards, including serving as the President of the Covington Lions Club, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tipton County Bank, a Director of Patriot Bank, member of the Foundation Board of Directors for Dyersburg State Community College, and Chairman of the Steering Committee that established a campus of Dyersburg State Community College in Covington; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community, Duke Brasfield coached church league basketball as well as Dixie Youth softball and baseball when his children were young, and, having attained the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout in high school, Brasfield remained an enthusiastic supporter of the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, in 2008, this remarkable man received special recognition and an honorary degree for his tremendous service to Dyersburg State Community College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Covington, where he faithfully served as Chairman of the Council on Ministries and on the Staff Parish Committee, the Board of Trustees, the Finance Committee, the Needs Assessment Task Force, and the Building Committee; and

WHEREAS, Duke Brasfield was also sincerely devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his father, Charles B. Brasfield; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Chancellor Martha B. Brasfield, and was the proud father of Benjamin Duke, Sara Charlotte, and Charles Addison Brasfield; and

WHEREAS, Duke Brasfield will also be sorely missed by his mother, Reba Nell Brasfield; his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Addison Bringle; his sisters-in-law and their spouses, Charlotte B. and John Wilkerson and Elizabeth B. Ziarko; his cousins and their spouses, Joe C. and Barbara Harris and Glenda Sydney Kennedy; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brasfield leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Duke Harris Brasfield, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Brasfield.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

ADOPTED: May 19, 2011


RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE